

Tushar Menon

Curriculum Vitae

Areas of Specialisation

Philosophy of Physics, Philosophy of Science.

Areas of Competence

Logic, Metaphysics.

Education

2014– **DPhil (PhD) Philosophy**, *Balliol College*, University of Oxford.

Supervisors: David Wallace, Simon Saunders

2013–2014 **MSt. Philosophy of Physics**, *St. Hilda's College*, University of Oxford.

2011–2012 **MA Life Writing**, *King's College London*, Dissertation title: The Life and Science of James Clerk Maxwell.

2008–2009 **MSc. Theoretical Physics**, *King's College London*, Dissertation title: An Introduction to Conformal Field Theory.

2005–2008 **BSc. Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics**, *St. Joseph's College*, Bangalore.

Fellowships

2017–2018 **Beyond Spacetime Predoctoral Fellow**, *University of Illinois, Chicago*.

2016 **Junior Visiting Fellow**, *University of Illinois, Chicago*.

Awards

2016 **Space and Time after Quantum Gravity Essay Prize.**

2014–2017 **British Society for the Philosophy of Science (BSPS) Doctoral Scholarship.**

2011–2012 **King's Alumni Bursary**, *King's College London*.

2008–2009 **Inlaks Scholarship.**

Papers

Peer-reviewed publications

forthcoming **Taking up superspace—what would it take to be a realist about superspace?**, *Philosophy Beyond Spacetime*, eds: Baptiste Le Bihan, Nick Huggett and Christian Wüthrich, Oxford University Press.

Balliol College, Oxford

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Currently under review

Clocks and Chronogeometry I: Rotating spacetimes and the relativistic null hypothesis, *Under review at British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, (with James Read and Niels Linnemann).

Strings and Stringency—A response to Richard Dawid's programme of non-empirical theory assessment, *Under review at Synthese*.

Of Miracles—Defending the dynamical approach to general relativity, *Under review at Studies in the History and Philosophy of Modern Physics*.

Regarding 'Regarding the Hole Argument', *Under review at Foundations of Physics*, (with Thomas Møller-Nielsen and James Read).

Philosophy in the public sphere

2017 **Strings and Stringency—A review of Richard Dawid's *String Theory and the Scientific Method***.

Cambridge Humanities Review

Teaching Experience

Lectures

2012 **A Proper Introduction to Quantum Mechanics**, *Course designer, presenter*, Science Forum, St. Joseph's College, Bangalore.

Tutorials (Philosophy)

2017 **Philosophical Logic**, *Teaching Assistant*, Wadham College, Oxford.

2016 **Elements of Deductive Logic**, *Tutor*, Faculty of Philosophy, Oxford.

2015-2016 **Introduction to Logic**, *Tutor*, Balliol College, Hertford College, Oxford.

2015 **Philosophy of Science**, *Tutor*, Balliol College, St. Hugh's College, Oxford.

2015 **Intermediate Philosophy of Physics**, *Tutor*, University College, Oxford.

Tutorials (Mathematics)

2011-2012 **Calculus II**, *Tutor*, King's College London.

2009 **Calculus II**, *Tutor*, King's College London.

2008 **Linear Algebra**, *Tutor*, King's College London.

Presentations and Invited talks

Invited talks

2018 **Putting the cart before the horse: addressing the problem of pre-geometry in the dynamical approach to special relativity**, *University of Notre Dame*.

2018 **Supersymmetry and the philosophy of space and time**, *PoSE seminar (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor)*.

2017 **Of miracles: Reflections on the dynamical and geometrical approaches to general relativity**, *PoSE seminar (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor)*.

2017 **Debate with Richard Dawid: On the possibility of non-empirical confirmation of String Theory**, *University of Stockholm*.

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- 2017 **Affine Balance: Algebraic functionalism as a guide to spacetime structure**, *Philosophy of Physics Research Seminar (University of Oxford)*, *CamPoS Seminar (University of Cambridge)*.
- 2016 **Desperate spacetimes call for desperate measures**, *University of Geneva*.
- 2016 **Rebuilding Neurath's boat Planck by Planck**, *University of Illinois, Chicago*.
[Contributed Talks and other presentations](#)
- 2018 **On the function of spacetime**, *CUSO Workshop on spacetime functionalism (University of Geneva)*.
- 2018 **Spacetime: What is it good for?**, *Philosophy club (University of Illinois at Chicago)*.
- 2017 **Symposium: Promoting the field view of General Relativity—New insights from spin-2, emergent gravity, and the dynamical approach**, *European Philosophy of Science Association Conference (University of Exeter)*.
- 2017 **Rebuilding Neurath's boat Planck by Planck: Algebraic functionalism and the easy problem of quantum spacetime**, *Beyond Spacetime Conference, Geneva*.
- 2016 **Does a rolling stone gather nomos? A debate about laws of nature (with Niels Martens)**, *Philosophy of Physics Graduate Seminar (Oxford)*.
- 2016 **Taking up superspace**, *BSPS annual conference (Cardiff)*, *Foundations 2016 (LSE)*, *PSA 2016 (Atlanta)*.

Academic service

- 2017 **Referee**, *Synthese*.
- 2015-2016 **Co-convenor**, *Philosophy of Physics Graduate Seminar (Oxford)*.
- 2014-2015 **Co-convenor**, *Philosophy of Quantum Gravity reading group (Oxford)*.

Relevant work experience

- 2011 **Documentary Writer and Presenter**, *Visvesvaraya Industrial and Technological Museum (VITM), Bangalore*, Conceived, wrote, developed and presented a five episode series of documentaries for the VITM on electromagnetism, including designing and building all experiments.

Referees

Prof. David Wallace, *University of Southern California*, dmwallac@usc.edu.

Prof. Simon Saunders, *University of Oxford*, simon.saunders@philosophy.ox.ac.uk.

Prof. Nick Huggett, *University of Illinois at Chicago*, huggett@uic.edu.

Prof. David Baker, *University of Michigan, Ann Arbor*, djbaker@umich.edu.

Dr. Richard Dawid, *University of Stockholm*, richard.dawid@philosophy.su.se.

Dr. Dennis Lehmkuhl, *California Institute of Technology*, lemkuhl@caltech.edu.

Dr. Alexander Paseau, *University of Oxford*, alexander.paseau@wadham.ox.ac.uk.
 (Teaching reference)